

Message Text

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73

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

SS-20 USIA-15 SAJ-01 OMB-01 DRC-01 /127 W

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R 031459Z JUN 74

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO C/SECSTATE WASHDC 9737

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

AMCONSUL LUANDA

AMCONSUL OPORTO UNN

AMCONSUL PONTA DELGADA UNN

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION

CINCLANT

C O N F I D E N T I A L LISBON 2235

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, PO

SUBJ: SPINOLA STRESSES NEED FOR ORDER

REF: A) LISBON 2172 (NOTAL) B) LISBON 2205 (NOTAL)

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SUMMARY: IN TWO BRIEF BUT IMPORTANT SPEECHES OVER

WEEKEND PRESIDENT SPINOLA STRESSED NEED FOR ORDER IN
PROCESS OF TRANSITION WHICH NOW UNDER WAY AND CLAIMED
THAT ARMED FORCES MOVEMENT WAS OF "LIBERAL" ORIENTATION.
END SUMMARY.

1. AT SWEARING-IN CEREMONY FOR NEW COUNCIL OF STATE,
PRESIDENT SPINOLA WARNED AGAINST CIVIL DISORDER AND
EXTRALEGAL ACTION BY THOSE WHO WOULD IMPOSE THEIR WILL.
HE TOLD COUNCIL OF STATE IT SHOULD BE "A MODERATING FORCE"
TO PROTECT THE WEAK, AND HE SUGGESTED THAT POLITICAL
PARTIES BE CONCEIVED AS "ASSOCIATIONS OF OPINION" RATHER
THAN RIGID BLOCKS. HE STATED THAT WELL-ORCHESTRATED,
DEMAGOGICAL SLOGANS WERE NO SUBSTITUTE FOR POLITICAL
PROGRAMS IN BUILDING AN "OPEN SOCIETY". SPINOLA STATED
FLATLY THAT THERE WOULD BE A REFERENDUM ON A NEW
CONSTITUTION WITHIN A YEAR. HE COMPLETED SPEECH WITH
EFFUSIVE PRAISE OF ARMED FORCES MOVEMENT "AT THE
MOMENT WHEN ITS JOB IS CONCLUDING". IN BRIEF REPLY
ONE OF MEMBERS OF COUNCIL OF STATE PLEDGED THAT COUNCIL
WOULD BE "A FUNDAMENTAL ORGAN OF PORTUGUESE DEMOCRACY
THROUGH ITS FUNCTION OF BALANCE, GUARANTEE (SIC), AND
MODERATION".

2. ENORMOUS CROWD (ESTIMATED BY PRESS IN HUNDREDS OF
THOUSANDS) WELCOMED SPINOLA ON BRIEF VISIT TO COIMBRA
AND HEARD HIM TOUCH LIGHTLY ON LAW-AND-ORDER THEME WHILE
PRAISING "GREAT LIBERALS" WHICH COIMBRA HAD PRODUCED.
SPINOLA SAID POPULATION OF COIMBRA RECOGNIZED FULLY "THE
LIBERAL SPIRIT WHICH INSPIRED ARMED FORCES MOVEMENT".

3. COMMENT: SPINOLA'S FORAYS TO OPORTO AND COIMBRA
HAVE BEEN PUBLIC RELATIONS SUCCESSES AND HAVE BEGUN TO
MARK HIM NOT ONLY AS A POPULAR HERO BUT AS LEADER
DETERMINED TO BE SCRUPULOUS IN DEFENSE OF PUBLIC ORDER.
HIS PUBLIC REFERENCE TO THE JOB OF THE ARMED FORCES
MOVEMENT (AFM) COMING TO AN END IS THE FIRST PUBLIC
CONFIRMATION WE HAVE HAD OF PRIVATE INFORMATION THAT
THE AFM AS SUCH HAS NOW BEEN DISSOLVED AND ITS MEMBERS
RETURNED TO THEIR NORMAL DUTIES. WE INTERPRET THIS AS
REPRESENTING AN INCREASE IN THE JUNTA'S AUTHORITY,
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ALTHOUGH WE BELIEVE THAT THE PRESENCE OF MANY AFM LEADERS
ON COUNCIL OF STATE IS DESIGNED TO PROVIDE FOR THEIR
CONTINUING INFLUENCE. SCOTT

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